

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/702,524

Examiner

Cao (Kevin) Nguyen

Applicant(s)

YENNACO, ROBERT A.

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 12/27/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 21-67.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

CAO (KEVIN) NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Robert Kowert on 04/11/06.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 49 (Amended) A computer –accessible-- readable medium, comprising program instructions configured to implement:

maintaining a cache specific to help data for one or more user-interface components; and in response to receiving a request for help data for a newly referenced one of the components: if the help data for the referenced component is not in the cache, loading the help data for the referenced component into the cache; and supplying the help data for the referenced component for user presentation.

Claim 50 (Amended) The computer –accessible-- readable medium of claim 49, wherein the program instructions are further configured to implement, if the help data for the referenced component is in the cache, supplying the help data for the referenced component from the cache.

Claim 51 (Amended) The computer –accessible-- readable medium of claim 49, wherein said loading comprises deleting the least recently requested help data in the cache if there is not enough free space in the cache to store the help data for the

referenced component.

Claim 52 (Amended) The computer –accessible-- readable medium of claim 49, wherein in further response to said receiving the program instructions are further configured to implement loading into the cache help data for one or more non-referenced user interface components associated with the referenced component.

Claim 53 (Amended) The computer –accessible-- readable medium of claim 52, wherein the program instructions are further configured to perform said loading help data for the non-referenced components in a background process.

Claim 54 (Amended) The computer –accessible-- readable medium wherein in further response to said receiving, the program instructions are further configured to implement loading into the cache additional help data indicated by one or more hyperlinks in the help data for the referenced component.

Claim 55 (Amended) The computer –accessible-- readable medium of claim 54, wherein in further response to said receiving, the program instructions are further configured to implement loading into the cache further help data indicated by one or more hyperlinks in the additional help data.

Claim 56 (Amended) The computer –accessible-- readable medium of claim 54, wherein in response to receiving a request for help data for an indicated one of the hyperlinks the program instructions are further configured to implement supplying the additional help data for the indicated hyperlink.

Claim 57 (Amended) The computer –accessible-- readable medium of claim 49, wherein in further response to said receiving the program instructions are further

configured to implement automatically loading help data into the cache for one or more non-referenced components associated with the referenced component based on predefined associations between the components.

Claim 58 (Amended) The computer –accessible-- readable medium of claim 49, wherein during said loading the program instructions are further configured to implement loading the help data into the cache from a remote source across a network.

Claim 59 (Amended) The computer –accessible-- readable medium of claim 49, wherein said receiving a request comprises receiving a notification event in response to a user changing focus in a dialog box, wherein the notification event comprises an indication of the reference component.

Claim 60 (Amended) The computer –accessible-- readable medium of claim 49, wherein in response to receiving a preload request indicating one or more of the components, the program instructions are further configured to implement loading into the cache help data for each of the indicated components.

Claim 61 (Amended) The computer –accessible-- readable medium of claim 49, wherein the program instructions are further configured to implement:
loading a registry with predefined data associating one or more non-referenced user interface components with the referenced component, and in further response to said receiving: reading the predefined data from the registry; and loading into the cache help data for the or more non-referenced components.

Claim 62 (Amended) The computer –accessible-- readable medium of claim 49, wherein the cache is one of a plurality of maintained caches specific to help data, wherein

each cache includes help data for one or more user interface components of a user interface section of a respective plurality of user interface sections.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 21-67 are allowed over the prior art of record.

Applicant has claimed uniquely distinct features in the instant invention which are not found in the prior art either singularly or in combination. They are a method, comprising: maintaining a cache specific to help data for one or more user interface components; and in response to receiving a request for help data for a newly referenced one of the components: if the help data for the referenced component is not in the cache, loading the help data for the referenced component into the cache; and supplying the help data for the referenced component for user presentation. These features are not found or suggested in the prior art.

Each independent claim is identified the uniquely distinct features “if the help data for the referenced component is not in the cache, loading the help data for the referenced component into the cache; and supplying the help data for the referenced component for user presentation”. The closest prior art, Cook and Martinez discloses a conventional lessons for computer-aided instruction may be downloaded ahead of time; either singularly or in combination, fail to anticipate or render the above underlined limitations obvious.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany

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the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cao (Kevin) Nguyen whose telephone number is (571)272-4053. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM-5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca can be reached on (571)272-4048. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Cao (Kevin) Nguyen
Primary Examiner
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04/14/06